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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of

MAERTENS et al

Atty. Ref.: 2551-48

Serial No. To Be Assigned

Group:

Filed: October 12, 2000

Examiner:

For: IMPROVED IMMUNODIAGNOSTIC ASSAYS USING  
REDUCING AGENTS

October 12, 2000

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

In order to place the above-identified application in better condition for examination, please amend the application as follows:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Amend the Specification as follows:

Insert the attached Sequence Listing after the claims pages.

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Claim 7, line 1, change, "any of claims 1 to 6" to - -claim 1--.

Claim 8, line 1, change, "any of claims 1 to 7" to - -claim 1--.

Claim 9, line 1, change, "any of claims 2 to 8" to - -claim 2--.

Claim 10, line 1, change, "any of claims 2 to 9" to - -claim 2--.

Claim 11, line 1, change, "any of claims 2 to 9" to - -claim 2--.

Claim 13, line 1, change, "any of claims 2 to 9" to - -claim 2--.

Claim 15, line 1, change, "any of claims 2 to 9" to - -claim 2--.